

26 February 1979

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

Staff Meeting Minutes of 26 February 1979

The Director chaired the meeting. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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Hetu added that Time senior editor Warner plans to do an essay on the future of intelligence. This may be a possible outgrowth of the Director's session with Hugh Sidey. Warner has requested to meet with a senior official on 27 or 28 February, and Mr. Carlucci and Dr. Bowie both said that they would try to find time to talk with him. The Director opined that this project seemed worthy of some support. [REDACTED]

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Hetu reported that he had met with the Senior Review Panel and suggested that a DCI Note be drafted to explain it in detail to employees. In response to Hetu's question, [REDACTED] confirmed that Congress has been briefed on the panel and Hetu could therefore discuss it publicly. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

Suggesting items to emphasize in this month's Monthly Trends memo, Lehman noted that analysts now doubt that Khomeini and Bazargan have sufficient control to retain power in Iran. Furthermore, if Khomeini goes to Qom and disbands his committee, the situation is likely to deteriorate. Secondly, a new round of serious fighting is expected to break out in Lebanon in March or April. Christian forces appear to be preparing themselves for such an outbreak. The Director suggested that the above two items seemed too urgent to be included in the Monthly Trends report, and Lehman suggested that Alert Memoranda be considered instead. He added

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[REDACTED]

The Director noted that he requested a representative from CTS to accompany him today on a visit to the China/Vietnam task force to discuss collection requirements. Shackley outlined [redacted] the area of hostilities during the next few days. The Director asked NFAC to have OSR and other appropriate offices examine the Soviet/Chinese border area and outline whatever options may be available to the Soviets. (Action: NFAC) [redacted]

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[redacted] advised that Congressman Hamilton has asked to bring his sub-committee to the Agency for a general briefing. The Director concurred. [redacted]

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[redacted] noted receipt of a request from HPSCI staffer Latimer regarding the allegation that former Agency employee Angleton was a "mole." The Director noted his intention to continue to reply "no comment" to such questions. [redacted]

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[redacted] said that Speaker of the House O'Neill feels obligated to make a statement regarding allegations of Iranian payoffs to U.S. Congressmen. The Congressional Ethics Committee has contacted the Agency and has been informed that neither CIA nor NSA has any specific information on this matter. Agency files do contain speculative information from a third agency, however, and the Committee has been referred to the Attorney General. [redacted]

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[redacted] called attention to the weekly legislative highlights book of upcoming events that was disseminated to attendees. [redacted]

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Lapham explained that former FBI Director Pat Gray and two other FBI officials will come to trial on 5 March for charges of authorizing surreptitious entry to property owned by the Weathermen. In order to describe the circumstances of the break-in, Gray wants to admit into evidence information about [redacted] which ended in 1967 and for a brief time was reconsidered [redacted]. The Department of Justice has forwarded a memo to the Secretary of Defense asking that the relevant material be declassified or justification be provided for not doing so. This memo has also been forwarded to the DCI with a covering letter in view of the latter's responsibilities for protecting sources and methods. Lapham suggested that an impasse between Defense and Justice is likely to forward this question to the White House, and the Director's views may be sought. The Director suggested that he should demonstrate the same concern for NSA sources and methods as those of the CIA. In response to Dirks' question, Lapham said that the Director may want to disagree with the Secretary of Defense's likely position to deny declassification because much of this information has already appeared in the public domain. Lapham said he would be forwarding a package to the Director. [redacted]

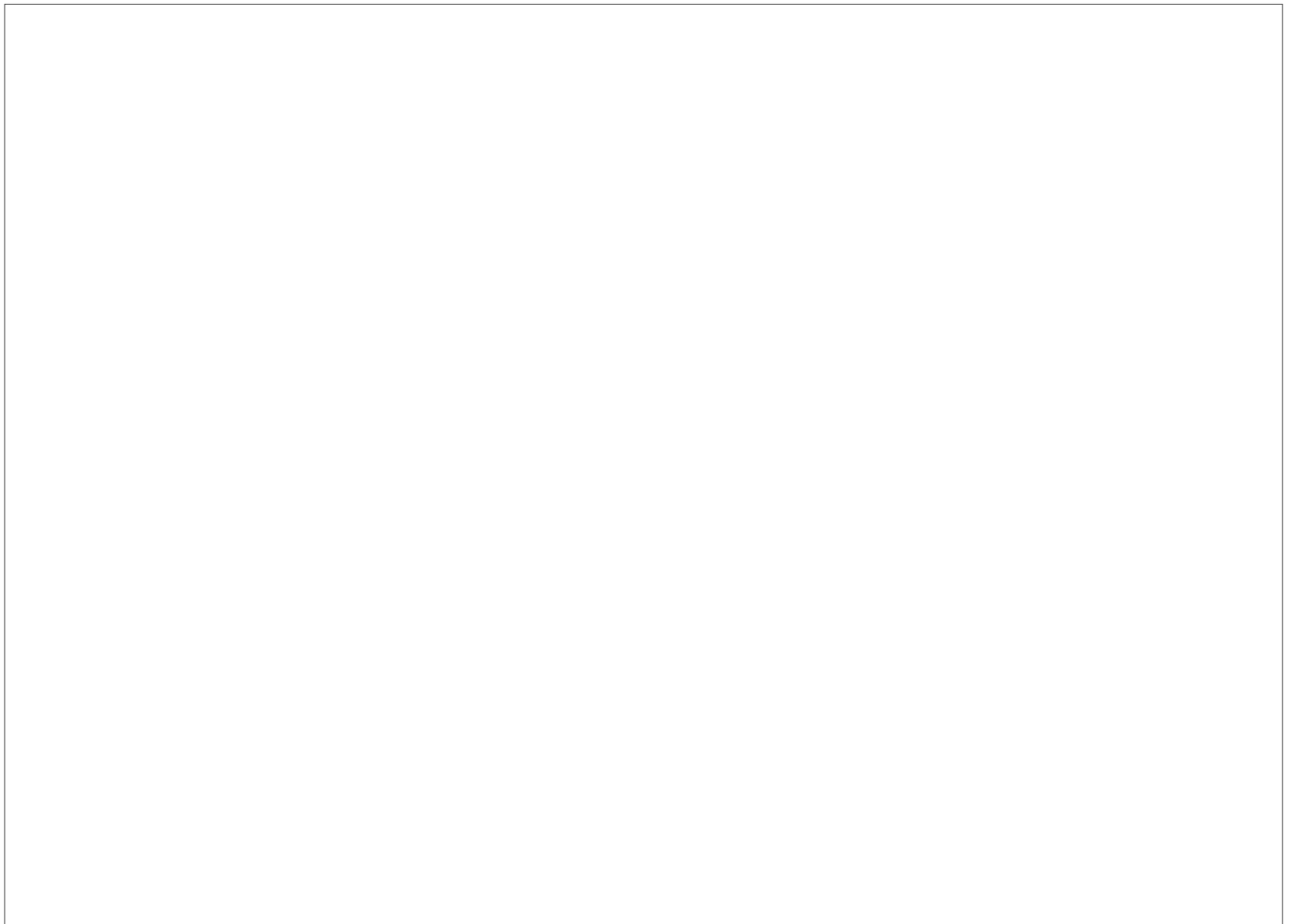
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Lapham advised that a consensus has been formed that OGC should be responsible for administering the Ethics in Government Act for the Agency. As a result of a meeting with Wortman and Waller, Lapham said that he planned to propose that his deputy work with an Agency-wide task force of representatives from each directorate to review the financial statements of Agency employees in grades 16 and above. He added that a way may be found to remove the names from the reports before they are reviewed. McMahon speculated that there should be no reason for concern as long as the reports are being reviewed by an internal Agency group. Waller mentioned that he viewed his role as standing in reserve to address any grievances or complaints that may develop. [] 25X1 25X1



Shackley advised that his staff had completed the collection summary for the Yemens. [] 25X1

Alluding to the 23 February staff meeting discussion about providing FOCUS studies to House Appropriations staffer Snodgrass, Shackley said that the December 1976 study was provided to Snodgrass, who then asked for the December 1978 follow-up. Ambassador Davies briefed Snodgrass orally on the latter and he seemed satisfied. Noting expectations that Snodgrass would ask the Director questions drawn from these studies during his 28 February appearance before the House Appropriations Defense Subcommittee, Shackley said that his staff would prepare likely questions and answers for the Director. [] expanded on Shackley's remarks, suggesting that Snodgrass will probably ask why suggestions in the 1976 study had not been acted upon before the 1978 study. [] 25X1 25X1 25X1

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The Director asked [] to have the RM Staff work with NFAC and others as appropriate to determine the cost of SALT monitoring. Mr. Carlucci noted that this item had been included in the CIA budget book. (Action: RM) []

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The Director highlighted this morning's Cabinet meeting, including the following items of interest:

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--The evacuation of Americans from Iran has been completed, with 3,000 remaining by their own choice. []

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--The Iranians have offered to sell oil at \$20 per barrel to an American operator in the Virgin Islands. Secretary Schlesinger emphasized that this would not be sanctioned by the U.S. Government. []

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--The reprogramming of Department of State funds for Taiwan has been delayed and could prevent paying any U.S. officials in Taiwan. The Director asked OLC and OGC to monitor these developments carefully. (Action: LC and GC) []

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--Regulations have been drafted for the Ethics in Government Act, and the President said that he would consider some minor revisions in the wording of the Act relating to reemployment possibilities. []

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Outlining the week ahead, the Director noted the schedule for Congressional appearances and SCC meetings. The Director said that he had begun to review the book prepared for the 2 March SCC on covert action. He concurred with Mr. Carlucci's suggestion that NSC/C [] draft a memorandum combining the various proposals [] Mr. Carlucci asked McMahon to have [] draft a new memo [] The Director emphasized the need to determine by 2 March what the Agency can and cannot do in the way of covert action. In response to McMahon's question, the

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